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A description of an experimental honors research training program for the undergraduate training of gifted science students. "Two concentrations will be offered, one in biology, the other in physics and chemistry. All students, irrespective of their concentration, will receive broad and intensive instruction in mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology. A generous portion of the student's time will be devoted to non-scientific cultural courses (foreign language, English, history and philosophy)." The program is supported by the National Institutes of Health.

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science research training program—providence college

by
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In recognition of the urgent need for more, well-trained research workers in the fields allied to the health sciences, the National Institutes of Health will support an experiment in the undergraduate training of exceptionally able students at Providence College. The program will last five years.

"Two concentrations will be offered, one in biology, the other in physics and chemistry. All students, irrespective of their concentration, will receive broad and intensive instruction in mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology. A generous portion of the student's time will be devoted to non-scientific cultural courses (foreign language, English, history and philosophy)."

The ideal of the program is to move students through their educational training at a maximum pace commensurate with their abilities. Hence, no definite duration will be assigned to any specific course. Instead, as soon as it is evident that the student has received the maximum benefit from a given course, he will move on to the next more advanced one whether or not a full semester has been completed.

The curriculum incorporates several innovations. The major portion of the science class work will be concentrated into the first two years. The final two years, including the summers after the sophomore and junior years, will be predominantly devoted to actual research in the field of the student's choice. Provision is also made for the temporary transfer of students to other institutions for specialized training and advanced courses.

Only eighteen students will be admitted to the Experimental Honors Research Training Program each year. They will be selected on the basis of the following: exceptional academic records in high school, the recommendations of their high school principals and teachers, their records on the College Entrance Board examinations and personal interviews. Not only high scholastic ability but a sincere enthusiasm for scientific research will be sought for in candidates.

The grant will provide tuition, laboratory fees and room and board where required. Stipends are also granted for summer research work.

The accelerated pace and greater intensity of the courses will require a considerable amount of personal tutorial instruction on the part of the professorial staff. For this reason, and to allow expansion of the research program at Providence College, one additional staff member will be added to each of the four science faculties.

In supporting this program, the National Institutes of Health are embarking on an experiment in scientific education at the undergraduate level. It is hoped that the results of the trial at Providence College will justify the extension of the program to many other colleges in the future.

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